TL. DRAW. By the mass, here will be old utis[7]: It will be an excellent stratagem.

2 *DRAW.* I'll see, if I can find out Sneak.

{Exit,

Enter Hostess and DOLL TEAR-SHEET*

HOST. Tfaith, sweet heart, methinks now you are in an excellent good temperality: your pulsidge

7 —here will be OLD UTIS.] *Utis*, an old word yet in use in some counties, signifying a merry festival, from the French *huitv, octa*; ab A. S. Gahra, *Octaves festfalicujus.*—Skinner. [1] POPE.

Skinner's explanation of *utis* (or *utas*) may be confirmed by the following passage from T. M.'s Life of Sir Thomas More: «— to-morrow is *St. Thomas of Canterbury's eeve* and the *utas* of St. Peter—" The eve of Thomas à Becket according to the new style happens on the 6th of July and St. Peter's day on the 29th of June.

Again in A Contention between Liberality and Prodigality, a comedy, 1602:

" Then if you please, with some roysting harmony,

" Let us begin the *utas* of our iollitie."

HENLEY.

In Warwickshire, as the Rev. Mr. Sharp informs me, *utis* is still used for what is called a *row*, a scene of noisy turbulence.

MALONE.

Old, in this place, does not mean ancient, but was formerly a common augmentative in colloquial language. *Old utis* signifies festivity in a great degree. So, in Lingua, 1607:

"• there's *old* moving among them."

Again, in Decker's comedy, called If this be not a good Play the Devil is in it, 1612:

" We shall have *old* breaking of necks then." *[1]

Again, in Soliman and Perseda, 1599:

" I shall have *old* laughing."

Again, in Arden of Feversham, 1592:

" Here will be *old* filching, when the press comes out of Paul's." STEEVENS.

This expression has long existed in our language. We meet with it in Le Bone Florence. Ritson's Romances, vol. iii. p. 29:

" With sharpe swyrdis foght they then
*' They had be two full doghty men,

" *Gode-oldelyghtyng-wm* there."
BOSWKLL.
See vol. v. p. 441, n. 4.